

# ViewPoint

Summer 2005 — Special Edition

## Introducing the Illinois Center for Transportation at ATREL ICT



**Illinois Department of Transportation**

Bureau of Materials and Physical Research  
126 East Ash Street / Springfield, Illinois / 62704-4766

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## GRAND OPENING FOR THE ICT

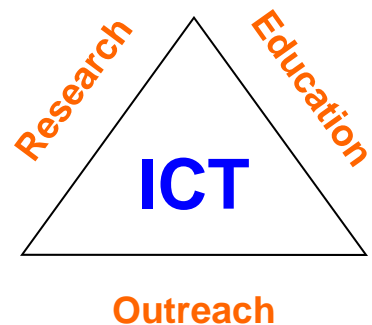
On August 22, 2005, the Illinois Center for Transportation (ICT—pronounced Ice Tea) was created. David Lippert, Acting Bureau Chief, and Patty Broers, Research Coordinator, of the Bureau of Materials and Physical Research would like to welcome you to the September 9, 2005 Open House at the ATREL facility in Rantoul, Illinois.

### ILLINOIS CENTER FOR TRANSPORTATION (ICT) MISSION

The mission of the ICT is to promote innovation and progress in transportation through interdisciplinary research in an objective setting. The ICT will augment IDOT's capacity to address needed applied research and education for the transportation system. Through collaboration with academia, FHWA, IDOT, and industry; the ICT will concentrate on research that is directed in building and maintaining the safest, most durable, and reliable transportation system in the nation. The ICT will serve the needs of IDOT, the State of Illinois, and the country by providing the foundation for **research, education, and outreach**.

#### Benefits:

- Access to leaders in transportation and related support fields.
- Established program will reduce administrative workload.
- Enhanced ability to leverage funding.
- Established center to provide long term continuity of support and growth.



Research studies at the ICT will be directed by focus groups called Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs). We will be looking for volunteers willing to be “tagged” as chairs of these groups. In order for the ICT to meet the needs of IDOT, your input is critical. The ICT will be the mechanism to connect with the intellectual knowledge of academia and needs of our transportation system users.

The initial focus areas of the TAGs will be in the areas of Structures, Pavements and Materials, Operations, Safety, Public Transportation, Environment, Planning and Construction. These groups will be comprised of industry leaders as well as IDOT central office, regional staff, and FHWA. As other areas of interest warrant, new TAGs will be added.

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### What are TAG's?

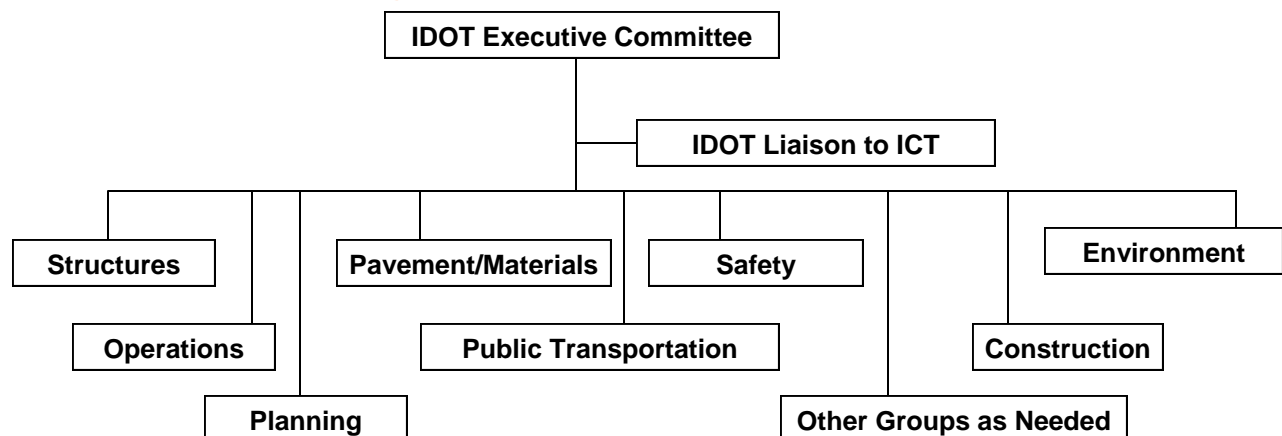
Each TAG will determine what research is needed to help improve how Illinois builds and manages our transportation system. Initially, we will be forming TAGs in the areas of Structures, Pavements and Materials, Operations, Safety, Environment, Public Transportation, Planning, and Construction. Each group will determine the research needs in its focus area. Other areas and related TAGs will be added as needed. Research ideas/topics can also be brought forward for consideration outside the TAG structure by directly submitting an issue to the Bureau of Materials and Physical Research.

An Executive Committee comprised of the department's Directors will then evaluate and determine the overall direction of the center work. Each TAG will oversee individual projects in its area under study by ICT. The result will be a focused interaction between academic leaders, industry, and IDOT to solve our most pressing problems.

### How do I submit an idea?

Ideas are developed through the TAGs and may be submitted to the TAG Chairpersons. Submittals may also be sent to David Lippert, Acting Bureau Chief of Materials and Physical Research, at [lippertdl@dot.gov.il](mailto:lippertdl@dot.gov.il) or to Patty Broers, Research Coordinator, at [broerspa@dot.il.gov](mailto:broerspa@dot.il.gov). A form will soon be on the Physical Research website that can be downloaded and completed. The web address for Physical Research is <http://www.dot.il.gov/materials/research/physresearch.html>.

### What is the ICT oversight structure?



## MEET THE ICT ADMINISTRATORS

### **Imad L. Al-Qadi, Ph.D., P.E., Director**



Imad L. Al-Qadi, Director of ICT, holds a BS from Yarmouk University, and MEng and Ph.D. from Penn State in Civil Engineering. A registered Professional Engineer, Dr. Al-Qadi is a Fellow of the ASCE and a member of TRB, AAPT, NAGS, RILEM, ISAP, IGS, and ASTM.

Dr. Al-Qadi is the co-editor of the International Journal of Pavement Engineering and the Construction and Building Materials Journal. He is currently serving on several national transportation agency and organization committees. Dr. Al-Qadi has authored/co-authored more than 250 publications.

### **Samuel H. Carpenter, Ph.D., P.E., Associate Director**



Dr. Carpenter, Associate Director ICT, graduated from Texas A & M (all degrees) and joined the faculty at the U of I in 1976. He is a registered Professional Engineer in Texas.

Previously, Dr. Carpenter was the former Director of the Illinois Cooperative Highway Transportation Research Program. He currently is on the Board of Directors for the Foundation for Pavement Preservation, and is Chairman of the Transportation Research Board's Committee AFK40 "Characteristics of Bituminous-Aggregate Combinations to Meet Surface Requirements." Over 90 publications have been authored by Dr. Carpenter.

## IDOT/ICT LIAISON TEAM



**David L. Lippert.**  
**Acting Bureau Chief Materials**  
**& Physical Research**



**Patty Broers**  
**Research Coordinator**